



MARBLEHEAD

Essex County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Marblehead is a picturesque seacoast town steeped in history. In its early years fishing and the shoe industry were its two main sources of income. Today it is mainly a residential community with some minor industry and a few unique retail stores.

While Marblehead has been known through the years as the "Birthplace of the American Navy," in recent times the town has also been known as one of the yachting capitals of the world. Pleasure boating is certainly a popular pastime of its residents.

Visitors come from all over the world to view the original of the famous painting, "The Spirit of '76", which is housed in Abbot Hall in the office of the Board of Selectmen, as well as to see the beautiful harbor crowded with sailing, fishing, lobster and pleasure boats. Another major attraction for visitors are the narrow crooked streets in the Historic District, lined with Colonial and Victorian buildings, some of which have been placed on the National Register.

The town offers residents and visitors a series of events in the course of the year, including an arts festival, tall ships cruise, regatta and race week, jazz concerts and Christmas walk.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Swampscott on the south, Salem on the southwest, and the Atlantic Ocean on the west, north, and east. Marblehead is 18 miles northeast of Boston; 22 miles southeast of Lawrence; 92 miles south of Portland, Maine; and 235 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 19.63 sq. miles

Land Area: 4.53 sq. miles

Population: 19,971

Density: 4,409 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Middleton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.6°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Marblehead South, Marblehead North, Lynn

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 631-0528

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1649

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	12,905		
Democrats	3,304	25.6	%
Republicans	2,878	22.3	%
Other parties	2	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	6,721	52.1	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Marblehead town, Essex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	20,377	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	20,377	100.0
Male.....	9,611	47.2	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	179	0.9
Female.....	10,766	52.8	Mexican.....	25	0.1
Under 5 years.....	1,368	6.7	Puerto Rican.....	39	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	1,440	7.1	Cuban.....	12	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,371	6.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	103	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	950	4.7	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	20,198	99.1
20 to 24 years.....	457	2.2	White alone.....	19,747	96.9
25 to 34 years.....	2,106	10.3	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	3,604	17.7	Total population.....	20,377	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	3,635	17.8	In households.....	20,247	99.4
55 to 59 years.....	1,361	6.7	Householder.....	8,541	41.9
60 to 64 years.....	908	4.5	Spouse.....	4,826	23.7
65 to 74 years.....	1,622	8.0	Child.....	5,774	28.3
75 to 84 years.....	1,159	5.7	Own child under 18 years.....	4,737	23.2
85 years and over.....	396	1.9	Other relatives.....	429	2.1
Median age (years).....	41.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	103	0.5
18 years and over.....	15,507	76.1	Nonrelatives.....	677	3.3
Male.....	7,094	34.8	Unmarried partner.....	312	1.5
Female.....	8,413	41.3	In group quarters.....	130	0.6
21 years and over.....	15,149	74.3	Institutionalized population.....	128	0.6
62 years and over.....	3,684	18.1	Noninstitutionalized population.....	2	-
65 years and over.....	3,177	15.6	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,339	6.6	Total households.....	8,541	100.0
Female.....	1,838	9.0	Family households (families).....	5,693	66.5
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	2,666	31.2
One race.....	20,228	99.3	Married-couple family.....	4,826	56.5
White.....	19,879	97.6	With own children under 18 years.....	2,230	26.1
Black or African American.....	89	0.4	Female householder, no husband present.....	681	8.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	16	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	381	4.5
Asian.....	200	1.0	Nonfamily households.....	2,858	33.5
Asian Indian.....	33	0.2	Householder living alone.....	2,447	28.7
Chinese.....	48	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	913	10.7
Filipino.....	17	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,750	32.2
Japanese.....	16	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	2,257	26.4
Korean.....	40	0.2	Average household size.....	2.37	(X)
Vietnamese.....	17	0.1	Average family size.....	2.94	(X)
Other Asian ¹	29	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	6	-	Total housing units.....	8,906	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	8,541	95.9
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	365	4.1
Samoa.....	5	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	160	1.8
Some other race.....	38	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	149	0.7	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.9	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	8,541	100.0
White.....	20,015	98.2	Owner-occupied housing units.....	6,434	75.3
Black or African American.....	125	0.6	Renter-occupied housing units.....	2,107	24.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	44	0.2	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.56	(X)
Asian.....	255	1.3	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.80	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	14	0.1			
Some other race.....	78	0.4			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	307
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	0
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Marblehead is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 114 and 129.

Rail

Commuter rail service to North Station, Boston, is available on the Rockport Line from Salem Station (travel time: 25-34 min.; 340 MBTA parking spaces) and Swampscott Station (travel time: 25-27 min.; 131 spaces). MBTA subway service is available on the Blue Line from Wonderland Station in Revere (17 min. to Government Center; 1,223 MBTA parking spaces).

Bus

Marblehead is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), which provides fixed route service to Swampscott, Lynn and Boston. The MBTA also provides THE RIDE, a paratransit service for the elderly and disabled.

Other

The Beverly Municipal Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility in neighboring Beverly, has 3 asphalt runways 3,500'; 4,634'; and 5,001' long. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Marblehead Historical Society
161 Washington Street
(781) 631-1069

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Devereux House Nursing Home

Lafayette Convalescent Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.